



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Recognizing the volunteer efforts of individuals and groups is one of the goals of Take Pride in America®, and a key component of the Take Pride in America Act.

In 1988, at the National Award Ceremony, President Reagan said, "Perhaps best of all, there are people... throughout the country, taking pride in America and protecting the abundant majesty of our Nation. Throughout our history, caring individuals have bequeathed great parks, forests, wildlife preserves and historic sites to a Nation that they love and cherish. And the award winners we recognize today are their moral heirs and successors—individuals, working together and accomplishing great things. That's something America can truly be proud of."

Today, we continue to value the efforts of volunteers throughout the country who have become stewards of public lands. We recognize their

volunteer efforts through a variety of awards. These include annual National Awards for outstanding projects and events, recognition by elected officials or a Take Pride in America supporter and special recognition awards to those who have amassed exceptional hours of service.



Above: Volunteers with the Southern Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program work to clear landscape debris and trash from the desert. The program is a two-time National Award winner in the Federal Volunteer Program category.

Left: Students and Principal Debbie Straughn at Deer Creek Elementary School work in their outdoor classroom in Edmond, Oklahoma. The students won the 2005 Take Pride National Award in the Schools category.



Former Interior Secretary Gale A. Norton presents the 2005 National Award to National Public Lands Day for winning in the Non-Profit category.

NATIONAL TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA AWARDS

Presented annually, National Awards recognize specific volunteer projects and efforts in a number of different categories. These awards, given for outstanding stewardship of public lands, honor those who best conserve and/or enhance our public parks, forests, grasslands, reservoirs, wildlife refuges, cultural and historical sites, local playgrounds and other recreation areas. For all award categories, nominations must reflect actual, measurable accomplishments achieved through volunteer service. To be eligible, projects must be "on the ground" activities rather than advocacy in any form. Winners are selected by a panel of judges and are honored at an awards ceremony in Washington, DC.

SPECIAL TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA AWARDS

Governor's Take Pride Appreciation Award

Selected by participating governors, the award is presented to a group or individual for a project or program in the state that promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

Congressional Take Pride Appreciation Award

Members of Congress select and present the award for a project or program in his or her state/district that promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.



Governor Haley Barbour of Mississippi presented a Governor's Take Pride Appreciation Award to the Mississippi Marine Debris Task Force for their work organizing and sponsoring the annual Mississippi Coastal Cleanup.



Two generations collaborate to plant vegetable seedlings in a Take Pride in America Garden in Hampstead, Maryland.

Take Pride in America Garden Award

Garden Award winners are selected by America the Beautiful Fund and presented to recipients whose gardening ingenuity and creativity encourages community involvement in the spirit of Take Pride in America.



**TAKE PRIDE®
IN AMERICA**
It's Your Land, Lend A Hand



Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr. of Utah recognizes members of the Utah Jr. Master Gardener Program with a Take Pride in America Garden Award.

HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS

Take Pride in America recognizes exceptional personal commitments to volunteering, in cooperation with USA Freedom Corps and Points of Light Foundation.

Presidential Volunteer Service Award

Take Pride in America, in cooperation with the White House, recognizes individuals who have completed more than four thousand hours of volunteer service on public lands.

Secretarial Volunteer Service Award

Signed by the Secretary of the Interior, this award is presented to volunteers with three thousand or more hours of volunteer service on public lands.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

For more information about Take Pride in America awards, including to submit a request for the Hours of Volunteer Service Awards, please visit the Take Pride website at www.TakePride.gov. You may also want to visit the USA Freedom Corps website at www.usafreedomcorps.gov.